

לפ"מ

The shekel

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NEW ISRAELI BANKNOTE
1 SHEQEL

See page 30



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The AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION is a cultural and educational organization dedicated to the study and collection of Israel's coinage, past and present, and all aspects of Judaica Numismatica. It is a democratically organized, membership oriented group, chartered as a non-profit association under the laws of the State of New York.

As an educational organization, the primary responsibility is the development of programs, publications, meeting and other activities which will bring news, history, technical, social and related background to the study of numismatics. Membership is open to all men and women of goodwill and to clubs who share the common goals of the Association.

The Association is the publisher of THE SHEKEL, a six times a year journal and news magazine prepared for the enlightenment and education of the membership. It neither solicits or accepts advertising, paid or unpaid. Its views are the views and opinions of the writers and the pages and columns are open to all who submit material deemed by the editors to be of interest to the members.

The Association sponsors such major cultural/social/numismatic events as an annual Study Tour of Israel, national and regional conventions and such other activities and enterprises which will benefit the members. Dues are paid annually at \$10.00 per year; life memberships are offered to all at \$150.00. Junior membership (under 18) \$2.50 per year. Your interest and participation will be welcomed by any of the affiliated clubs or as a general member of the Association.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Morris Bram

Dear Friends,

This is America's *Statue of Liberty* time. You will have your newspapers, your radio and your TV beckoning for your attention. In much of the reportage, the Emma Lazarus poem that set the spirit for the contribution of America to the poor and homeless of the world will in the main neglect to point out that her own roots were in the immigrant world of the Jews.

AINA's own recognition of the importance of this 100th anniversary event came in a richly detailed and numismatically exciting fashion from one of AINA's stalwarts, Julius Turoff, now secretary of the organization. In the most extensive (29 cases) display in AINA convention history and in the memory of any longtime convention attendees anywhere, Mr. Turoff, General Chairman, provided a grand salute to the Statue at our own May Convention. *Thank you, Julie.*

One of the unhappy aftermaths of the 1985 terrorist attacks on the planes and cruise ship was cancellation (for the first time ever!) of the Spring Study Tour to Israel. AINA is determined to have a March tour in 1987—and responsibility for mobilizing the participants has been placed in the hands of Moe ("Mighty Moe") Weinschel who was chairman of the Bourse for the just-completed convention, a dramatic success in every dimension with a sold-out Bourse, strong public attendance and exciting Educational Forums.

The tour will be from March 12 through to March 26, 1987. A number of ideas are being considered which may make this tour different from others in the past. For example, one idea to be explored is to welcome Canadian numismatists as part of the event. Canadians cancelled their planned 1986 tour late in 1985. Another idea to be explored is a special program which will make it possible for grandparents to bring school-age grandchildren.

Perhaps you have ideas on how our tour would attract a larger group to make possible the kind of memorable events one remembers from the tours of a dozen years ago? Write to Mighty Moe. Show that you mean business by enclosing \$250 for each member of your family group. The tour will be priced in the under \$1800-per-person area. But there is no better, richer, more joyous and numismatically thrilling event.

This issue of *The Shekel* concludes a 3-part series on Palestine numismatics by the indefatigable Sylvia Haffner. Now she has started a 35-part series on collectibles of Israeli numismatic items—by theme. Airplanes, animals, agriculture down to . . . Sylvia? Zeppelins and zoos? I doubt it.

Have a good summer.

Shalom

Morris

FISCVS JVDAICVS



By Edwin Mendelssohn, M.D.

In 97 C.E. the Roman Emperor Nerva, 96-98 C.E. issued a large bronze coin the reverse of which has a stylistic palm tree in the center with a legend around the periphery FISCI JUDAICI CALUMNIA SUBLATA. This has been variously translated as follows:

1. The Jewish tax has been removed.
2. The insult of the Jewish tax has been removed.
3. On removal of the shameful extortion of the Jewish fiscal tax.
4. The suppression of the prosecutions in connection with the Jewish treasury.

The word FISCI is the plural of the Latin noun FISCUS whose literal meaning is *money basket* or *money bag* but as used by the Romans referred to *treasury*. There is a question of the exact meaning of this legend. Does it refer to the tax itself or to the governing body or board entrusted to collect this tax from the Jews and the manner and means with which it was done? To better understand the exact meaning and intent one must go back to the end of the Judaeo-Roman War 66-70 C.E.

After almost five years of killing, plundering, burning and bondage

The Roman Emperor
Nerva 96-98 CE

into slavery of thousands of Jews, tiny Judaea was finally defeated by the might of the great Roman Empire under Vespasian, 69-79 C.E. and his son Titus, 79-81 C.E. In the final year of the war 70 C.E., the Temple at Jerusalem was completely destroyed. In keeping with the Roman custom of honoring conquering heroes, Vespasian and Titus were accorded the title of IMPERATOR.

In other Roman conquests it was the rule that the title IMPERATOR would be followed by the name of the vanquished country (e.g. Britannicus, Germanicus, etc.). The conquerors of Judaea, however, did not add the appellation of JUDAICUS to

their rule. This departure from accepted Roman custom had two reasons. First, the term JUDAICUS had by that time denoted a follower of the Jewish religion or to the citizenry of Judaea, something neither Vespasian nor Titus could claim. Second, Vespasian did not annex Judaea to the Roman empire. According to Josephus, he had taken over Judaea as his personal property, hence he could not add the title JUDAICUS to his status as Roman emperor.



Nerva



Vespasian

Having proclaimed Judaea as his personal property, Vespasian ordered all the land to be farmed and he would collect the rent for his personal use. This order, however, applied only to land captured by the Romans. Land or other property of individuals who had voluntarily surrendered to the Romans was permit-

ted to remain in the possession of its original owner as with cities such as Jabneh and Gophna which had submitted to the Romans. Galilee, originally the territory of King Agrippa II, was restored to his rule, and the people of Sepphoris and Tiberias, who opposed the war were allowed to keep their land property. As for Jerusalem, that city was soon sufficiently rebuilt for the benefit of the Roman Xth Legion, who were stationed there, supported by the Judaeans who had to supply the necessities of life.



Tenth Legion Symbol

After the war Judaea remained a province as it had been prior to the war. Lucilius Bassus, the commander of the Xth Legion automatically became the governor of Judaea, with the same rights as those of the pre-war procurators. The destruction of the Judaeans state did not cause much change in the Judaeans political life. Judaea had been completely subordinated to Rome and had enjoyed only minimal independence for quite some time before the war. On the other hand the Romans did not interfere with the religious, social and economic life of the Judaeans. The governor appointed by Rome had been vested with full authority over the country and supervised the general affairs of the province, such as the building of roads and the collecting of taxes.

The political status of Judaea following the fall of Jerusalem might be classified as somewhere between a

conquered state and a status in which public and private property remained in the possession of the native population. The people of Judaea had to pay tribute to Rome, but they were not required to supply men for the Roman armies. They were free to practice their religion and had the right to try civil and criminal cases in their own courts, a privilege not usually granted to peoples conquered by Rome.

The fact that Judaeans continued to own and manumit slaves indicates that the Judaeans were not classed as aliens whose country had been conquered by another power and who therefore no longer had a country of their own; for such landless aliens did not enjoy such privileges under Roman rule. In the meantime the Judaeans sank from the status of owners to that of more or less hereditary tenant farmers, although Rabbi Gamaliel II and others unperturbedly continued to lease their estates to other real tenant farmers. All of them undoubtedly also paid more in rent than they had previously paid in taxes, which had already been extremely heavy.

Of much greater and more enduring consequence of the lost war was the imposition by Vespasian of a special tax on all the Jews of the Roman Empire, even if they were not of a native Judaeans descent, but proselytes. Two drachmas were paid annually in lieu of the hitherto half-shekel paid to the Temple at Jerusalem, which the Jews had voluntarily imposed upon themselves in accordance with their biblical injunction, *Ex. 30:13*. The imposition of this two drachma tax on the Jews outside of Judaea may be explained by the assistance they afforded the Judaeans insurgents in Judaea during the war. In Egypt it was collected from all males and females from the ages of three to sixty or sixty-two. This extension, at variance with the previ-

ous practice of the Jewish community, was entirely owing to Vespasian's well known greed and avarice. Equally unprecedented was the collection of that tax from the slaves of Jews. Although the tax was decreed in the third year of Vespasian's reign, it was levied also for his second year, thus mulcting the Jews and enriching the Imperial Treasury twice over.

The imposition of this special tax, although economically not a new burden, constituted a sharp deviation from the principle of civic equality. For the first time, the Jews of the whole Roman Empire including proselytes became a special source of revenue being in actuality the price they paid for the practice of their religion. This tax was definitely discriminatory, paid by none other than the Jew. Here was born the idea of the Jew as the specific taxpayer, to play so important role in later financial history. It became the forerunner of the discriminatory taxation of the Jews in Europe in the Middle Ages, and was precisely imitated in the *opferpfenning* poll tax exacted by the Holy Roman Emperors in Germany from 1342 C.E. onward as successors to the Roman caesars.

This special tax was in theory payable to the Capitolini Jupiter, but in practice it was paid to the special bureau of the imperial treasury in Rome, the *FISCUS JUDAICUS* (*Jos: Wars 7:218*; and Dio Cassius, *Historia Romana* 6: 7,2), as officially distinguished from the public treasury. This bureau was administered by a commission-consilium—and headed by a procurator (*CIL* 6:2, no. 8604), "*procurator ad capitularia Judaeorum*". More than likely, the only difference between the *fiscus* and the *capitularia* had to do with changes in the administrative method of accounting for the same thing, i.e. the two drachmas of the Jewish tax.



Titus



Domitian

There does not seem to have been any special tax collector in the different towns and provinces. The money for the FISCUS JUDAICUS was probably exacted by the ordinary local tax collector. Under Vespasian and his son Titus, only the Jews and proselytes practicing their religion were liable for this special tax. However, under Vespasian's second son, Domitian 81-96 C.E. all Jews without exception to sex or age were subject to the taxation. A rabid opponent of oriental cults, he combatted Judaism and Christianity, the latter being considered a Jewish sect by the Romans.

Domitian was a cruel and harsh ruler putting to death all who had been befriended by his father Vespasian and his brother Titus. Strangely, he did not dispense similar treatment to Josephus who had been greatly befriended by Vespasian. In fact, Domitian held Josephus in high esteem and according to Josephus, exempted him from all taxation, "a mark of the highest honor to the privileged individual". During the reign of Domitian the methods of collecting the tax were harshly strengthened and apparently the Roman authorities became more vigorous in determining who was liable for taxation. In various ways this opened the door to possibilities of calumny, causing suffering to many individuals. Dissimulations brought

in their wake accusations, vexations prosecutors and unwarranted searches of the home.

Domitian made use of every expedient to increase the revenues of the FISCUS JUDAICUS and he was never deterred from any mode of action to do away with any financial difficulties he encountered. The system of informing, favored by the emperor was expanded largely. Domitian did not hesitate to instruct his agents to submit suspected tax evaders to a physical examination (seeking circumcision). Thus, males, young and old, suspected as Jews ran the risk of being arrested and brought to the "procurator ad capitularia Judaeorum" who subjected them to a humiliating physical exposure in the presence of the Council.

The Historian Seutonius wrote (*Vita Domitian* 12), "more than any other, the FISCUS JUDAICUS was administered very severely; and to it were brought, or reported, those who either had lived the life of a Jew unprofessed, or, concealing their origin, had not paid the tax imposed upon the people. I remember that it was of interest to me during my youth when a ninety year old man was brought before the procurator and a very crowded court to see whether he was circumcised."

From the onset of this special tax some Jews tried to evade the tax by concealing their allegiance to the

Jewish faith; some men who broke with Judaism submitted to an operation—epispasmos—(of disguising circumcision by the act of drawing forward the foreskin) which had become usual since the time of the Maccabees.

This degrading examination in the hands of over-suspicious or unscrupulous tax collectors must have led to many abuses affecting Jews and non-Jews as well; it deeply aroused public opinion against Domitian. Toward the end of his reign Domitian exhibited extreme cruelty and persecutions to all his subjects.

Thus in 95 C.E. Rabban Gamaliel II and three other rabbis traveled to Rome and together with the Elders of Rome attempted to intervene with Domitian on behalf of the Jews. However, on September 18, 96 C.E. after a reign of fifteen years and five days, Domitian was assassinated by a freedman named Stephanus. This act came as a great relief to most of his subjects, and it may even have saved the Jews in Rome from annihilation. Immediately, the exiles returned and the Senate repealed most of his unpopular measures. His name was ordered everywhere to be erased; his triumphal arches were pulled down or converted to other uses. Many of the informers, especially in the lower classes were condemned to death. Domitian's death marked the beginning of the Golden Age of Rome. According to Gibbon, "If any man were called to fix the period in the history of the world during which the condition of the human race was most happy and prosperous, he would without hesitation, name that which elapsed from the death of Domitian to the accession of Commodus."

Emperor Nerva succeeded Domitian. One of the first acts of his administration abrogated the vexations which had become ordinary under his predecessor; all abuses were

abolished. He prohibited spying and informing. He punished those who accused others of being atheist or of having adopted the Judæan way of life. However, one thing is certain; the tax itself remained, but the collection was done with the normal process of collection. The tax had by that time become an important item in the Imperial Treasury. In connection with the redefinition of this fiscal obligation as applying only to professing Jews, the growing Christian community secured from Nerva an exception from the tax and indirectly obtained official recognition of the severance of its ties with the Jewish denomination. Literary sources indicate that the tax was still in existence in the first half of the third century (Origen, *ad Africanum*).

However, it soon lost its importance owing to the depreciation of the Roman currency. It is not known when exactly the special tax came to an end, but according to a suspect letter of the Roman Emperor Julian Apostate 361-363 C.E., he abolished the tax. In this letter to the Jews he says: "In the past your liability to new taxes and the constraint to give to the treasury numberless quantities of gold made the yoke of servitude especially oppressive. With my own eyes I have seen a part of this misery; a larger one I have perceived by finding the rolls kept to be used against you. I have reduced these rolls to ashes."

As no author at a later period mentions the Jewish tax it seems probable that the rate-rolls for the collecting of the didrachmon were destroyed by Julian's orders, and that the Jews owe to him the abolition of the tax which during three centuries pressed heavily upon them.

Clearly the tax was not abolished by Nerva in 97 C.E. but continued for many years afterwards. However, the

mechanism for the collection of the tax must have continued although the humiliating manner and means for its collection did cease. Hence, the translation most closely fitting

Nerva's coin would be Number Four above:

"The suppression of the persecutions in connection with the Jewish treasury."

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OLD SHEKEL NOTES IN COLORFUL FOLDERS



A new numismatic item—sets of three crisp uncut sheqel banknotes in a colorful folder—has been issued by the Bank of Israel. The notes are in the denominations of IS 1000, IS 5000 and IS 10000 of the phased-out

sheqel series. The IS 1000 note is available in two versions.

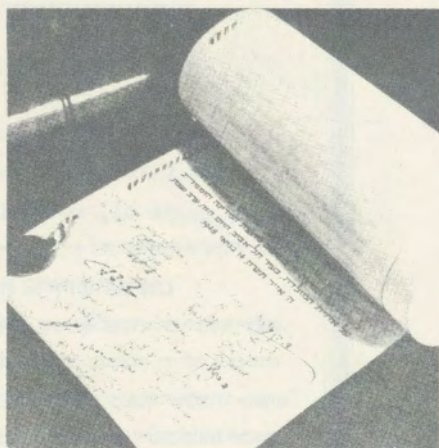
The Bank of Israel is planning to put on sale folders containing sets of three notes of New Sheqel series at a later date.

FINANCING THE START OF THE NEW STATE OF ISRAEL

By Dr. Sidney L. Olson

It takes a lot of money to start up a new country. This is the fact that was brought up to the leaders of the new "Israeli Government in Formation" in 1947. The only agency in place authorized by the British Mandate Government at that time to raise money for the Jews was "The Jewish Agency for Palestine". To this day, this agency still exists, (but for other purposes). The government in formation at that time, feeling there was a good chance that the State of Israel would be authorized by the United Nations, turned to "The Jewish Agency." The plan was to borrow money—convertible bonds.

Figure 1 and Figure 3 are the form in which the bonds of the Jewish Agency were issued. Figure 1 is for 100 Palestine Pounds; Figure 2 is for 10 Palestine Pounds. The language in both of these examples explained fully that the bond is convertible to whatever the "currency" would be



The Proclamation of Independence on May 14, 1948 established the State of Israel.

in circulation at the time of redemption of the bonds.

In Figure 1, at the lower left hand corner is a rubber stamp which advises that the currency at the redemption of this bond can only be used *internally*. On the bond in Fig-



The Provisional Council of the State of Israel.

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ-ישראל

מלוה לאומי - 3% - 1948/1953

תעודה זמנית ב/ 0567 №

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ-ישראל מאשרת בזה שהיא קבלה
מאת חיים א. ונציה
ב תל-אביב רח' נחלת בנימין 60
(כרובת מדיק)
את התמורה המלאה של 1- (אחת) תעודות פקדון בנות
100 לא"י (מאה לירות ארץ-ישראליות)
של המלוה הלאומי לפי תנאי ההודעה מיום 2 במאי 1948 - כיג ניסן, תשי"ח.
שהוצאה על-ידי הסוכנות היהודית לארץ-ישראל.
תעודה זמנית זו תחלף בתעודה(ות) סופית(ות) במשך שלשה חדשים
ותמסר(נה) לבעליה באמצעות הבנק הנזכר מטה, כשהיא(הן) רשומה(ות) על שם:
חיים א. ונציה, תל-אביב.
הסוכנות היהודית לארץ-ישראל
**העתק זה חסר כח ערך ומיועד
לשמוש משרדי פנימי בלבד**
התמורה שולמה לבנקאות קדם היהדות חתום
הנחת בנימין 60 עת לייצגלות
ביום 16 לחודש V 1948.

Figure 1 — 100 Palestine Pounds-1948.

ure 1 is the famous initial signature of Eliyaha Kaplan who was to become Treasurer for the State of Israel for a good many years.

The unusual feature of Figure 1 and Figure 2 is that they were issued in Palestine Pounds on May 16th, 1948, two days after the official declaration of the State of Israel. It is known that for a few weeks following establishment of the Official State of Israel bonds were sold in the amounts of Palestine Pound Currency because there was quite a bit in circulation.

These bonds were printed on extremely poor paper, almost newsprint. The size was 6¾-inches wide and 7⅞-inches long. The 100 Pound bond was on green paper; the 10 Pound bond was on salmon-color paper.

The guarantor of these bonds were the "The Jewish Agency for Palestine" until 1953.

Looking at Figure 3, you see a similar bond that was also green in color of the same size, but dated August 12, 1948. It is issued in Israel Lira.

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ-ישראל	
מלוה לאומי - 3% - 1948/1953	
תעודה זמנית א / 39647 №	
הסוכנות היהודית לארץ-ישראל מאשרת בזה שהיא קבלה	
מאת מרת בילת לאוסמן	
ב ת"ת בנקית 10, תל-אביב	
את התמורה המלאה של 1 (אחת) תעודות פקדון בנות	
10 לא"י (עשר לירות ארץ-ישראליות)	
של המלוה הלאומי לפי תנאי ההודעה מיום 2 במאי 1948 — כיג ניסן, תשי"ח,	
שהוצאה על-ידי הסוכנות היהודית לארץ-ישראל.	
תעודה זמנית זו תחולק בתעודה(ות) סופית(ות) במשך שלשה חודשים	
ותמסר(נה) לבעליה באמצעות הבנק הזכור מטה, כשהיא(הן) רשומה(ות) על שם:	
הנ"ל	
הסוכנות היהודית לארץ-ישראל	
העתק זה חסר כל ערך וצויער לשמוש אשורי בצי"י בלבד מק אגלד-פלשתינה בערבון מוגבל	
התמורה שולמנה לבנק: 10 י"ף מל-אביב	
ביום 16 לחודש סאף 1948	

Figure 2 — 10 Palestine Pounds-1948.

The official rate of exchange then was 3 Israeli *Lira* for the Palestine Pound. The Palestine Pound in 1947-1948 was equal to \$4.80 U.S. All Palestine Mandate Currency was redeemable at that rate at the Bank of England.

In many earlier articles, the transportation of the 50 Palestine Pound notes and the 100 Palestine Pound notes to the Bank of England for redemption—to back the Israeli currency was reviewed. For those who

have not heard the story, it is repeated here.

Because insurance was almost impossible to get, the Israeli Government took all the 50 Pound and 100 Pound Palestine Mandate (all available in Banks) notes and cut them in half. This way they did not need insurance because each half was shipped by common carrier to the Bank of England to be put together in London. If only half of the note appeared, and the other half never came, the first half could be re-

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

מלוה לאומי - 3% - 1948/1953

תעודה זמנית א / 69272 №

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל מאשרת בזה שהיא קבלה

מאת **נמא נע"מ**

ב **תל-אביב**, **רח"ה הראל 12**
(סוכות מחוקקת)

את התמורה המלאה של **3** (שליש) תעודות פקדון בנות

10 לא"י (עשר לירות ארץ ישראליות)

של המלוה הלאומי לפי תנאי ההודעה מיום 2 במאי 1948 - כיג ניסן, תשיח,

שהוצאה על-ידי הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל.

תעודה זמנית זו תחלף בתעודה(ות) סופית(ות) במשך שלשה חודשים

ותמסר(נה) לבעליה באמצעות הבנק הנזכר מטה, כשהיא(הן) רשומה(ות) על שם:

נמא נע"מ

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

העתק זה חסר כל ערך ומיועד לשמוש משרד פנימי בלבד

2 AUG. 1948

התמורה שולמנה לבנק: **ג'ני אונגר-טל-אביב**
טניי תל-אביב

ביום **12** לחודש **אוגוסט** 1948

Figure 3 — 10 Israel Lira-1948.

deemed and the second half ignored. This deposit was the basis for the first currency backing for the State of Israel.

Figure 4 is an illustration of the first bond issued by the State of Israel. It is dated 1948 for the series. These were printed in black on white paper, 6¼-inches wide and 9½ inches long. The feature of these bonds was that they were called the "1949 National Loan Bonds". The example shown is a 20 Lira Bond; especially noteworthy (in the lower right hand corner) is again the fa-

mous signature of E. Kaplan as "Treasurer". In the left hand corner (almost unintelligible) are the initials S.T. The writer has yet to identify this person but his title was "Director of the Budget". Again, there is a rubber stamp at the bottom which tells the purchaser that only local currency can be collected for this bond and it must be used internally.

Figure 5 shows a bond of the series 1950. It was printed in a light green ink and with a certificate motif so that it looks more like an official bond. Here at the top we see an "Of-

official Seal" of the State of Israel for the first time on a Bond. In the lower right hand corner again appears the famous signature of E. Kaplan, "Treasurer"; and beneath it, the initials S.T. as "Director of the Budget". For several years afterwards the

State of Israel Bonds used for internal sale and acquisition of monies were to take this shape. The size is approximately 6¼ by 9¼-inches. In summary and from contemporary knowledge, these were the series of bonds sold abroad for outside



Figure 4 — 20 Lira Bond—"The 1949 National Loan Bond".



Figure 5 — 1950 Bond.

or external funds for use in the industrialization of Israel and then those issued for internal use.

In the Fifties, Sixties and Seventies there were local issue bonds in Israel such as the Municipal Bonds we have in the United States. In addition to that there were "Enforced

Bonds". This means that every person in Israel had to buy a certain number of these bonds depending on his income, a loan to the government. Those funds were used to defray the cost of absorption of the new immigrants.

Dr. Sidney L. Olson

PALESTINE NUMISMATICS

Part III

By Sylvia Haffner Magnus

ONE HUNDRED POUND PALESTINE NOTES

The 100 Pound Palestine Pound notes are of the highest rarity. It has been estimated that there are theoretically seven of these notes still outstanding, according to the Bank in London. With the four notes listed . . . only three are unaccounted for!

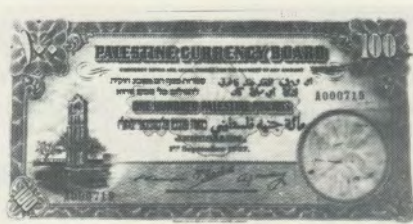
The higher value notes were used mainly in banking circles and were therefore redeemed when the notes

were demonitized. For example: the 50 pound note represented more money than the average citizen earned in six months!

The first 100 Pound note showed up in 1970, after many years of searching for it all over the world. Advertising in foreign newspapers for long periods of time . . . finally unearthed this note for Jack Fisher.



A001020 — 30.9.1929



A000719 — 1.9.1927



A000935 — 1.9.1927



A001088 — 30.9.1929



This note is dated, 30 September, 1929, serial No. A001020 and is known as the "Jack Fisher" specimen.

In 1972, a second 100 pound note was purchased at an auction in London. It was purchased by Sidney Olsen. It is dated, 1, September, 1927, serial No. A000719. It was sold at auction in 1978, Lot 2114 for \$17,300. This note is now known as the "Van Grover" specimen.

In 1973, a third note was purchased from a dealer in Denver, Colo. It is also dated, 1 September, 1927, serial No. A000935. It was known as the "Newman" specimen. The note has since changed hands and is now the "Arnold Kagan" specimen.

In 1974, a fourth note was purchased from a part-time collector in the eastern part of the U.S. and is

dated, 30 September, 1929, serial No. A001088. It was known as the "Neale" specimen. It changed hands and was known as the "Stanley Yulish" specimen. Recently the note was sold and is known as the "Howard Berlin" specimen.

There were rumors of a 100 Pound note existing in Israel, dated 1 September, 1927, serial No. A000049. They explained the note was sent to New York. The note has never been seen by me or verified by a photograph.

A second note was reported dated 10 September, 1942, serial No. A000018. This note has also not been seen by me or verified by a photograph. I would really like to see this one for the only 1942 note I have seen is a "Specimen Note" in the British Museum, from which a photograph was obtained.

A Guide to Grading Banknotes

Poor

Severe damage is evident; a portion of the printed design may be worn away. Many Palestine Banknotes were buried and consequently rotting may be evident.

Good

The banknote is dirty and damaged from folding and heavy use. Up to one-half of the surface on either or both sides may be stained. Tears may extend well into the design and portions of the border, but none of the design is torn away.

Very Good

Dirt from heavy circulation is evident and up to one-fourth of the area on either or both sides may be stained. The note is wrinkled and/or creased from folding. Small pieces may be torn away from the border and tears may extend into the printed design.

Fine

Dirt from substantial circulation is evident. The note is wrinkled and/or creased from folding. The note is complete, however, tears may exist within the borders but not extending into the printed area.

Very Fine

Traces of dirt and light wear from circulation are evident. The note may be lightly wrinkled and may have fold creases. No tears or stains are present.

Extremely Fine

The surface is free of dirt or stains. The note exhibits only the slightest amount of wear from being circulated briefly. No tears, wrinkles, creases or other damage is visible.

Almost Uncirculated

The texture of the paper is crisp. The surface is clean with only the slightest wear detectable; usually on the corners. The note may not lie perfectly flat on a smooth table due to being slightly warped.

Uncirculated

The banknote is in perfectly new "Just Printed" condition with no damage or signs of wear whatsoever. It has maintained its original crisp texture and will lie perfectly flat on a smooth table.

The Holyland Token

This controversial token has been an enigma to most researchers in the field. Is it a token? Is it a medal? Is it a pattern? Is it a rejected design?

Arlie R. Slabaugh wrote an article that appeared in the August 1968, issue of the *Tokens and Medals Society*, p. 115, titled, "A Holyland Souvenir." To quote in part, Mr. Slabaugh states:

"This is the story as I heard it, but cannot vouch for it. Certainly it sounds logical enough, but then token histories aren't always logical. Tourists and pilgrims come the year-round to visit the Holy places of Jerusalem. Then as now, tourists like to take home a souvenir of their trip, particularly from a place as hallowed as Jerusalem.

Obviously, sacred relics could not be removed. Many chose instead as a memento of their pilgrimage one of the new Mil coins of Palestine. The coins began to disappear. To supply a demand for souvenirs, the token was made to sell to tourists."

Although Mr. Slabaugh's article is quite "logical," there are some factors which should be analyzed.

Who issued the tokens? Certainly not the *Palestine Currency Board* - for if they felt that the one Mil coins were disappearing all they had to do was strike more of them. They could, not by law, issue a token and sell it for a profit. Why didn't the tourists take the two Mils if they couldn't find a one Mil? Was a private firm - trying to capitalize on the tourists? This would seem more "logical," but then how does one account for the scarcity? If it were struck for profit . . . it seems unlikely that only about 150 pieces would be minted - for the cost would have been prohibitive!

This is the story told to me in Haifa:

"The committee established by the British in June of 1926 had various designs submitted to them for the proposed new coinage. The final accepted design came from the original drawings of A. St. B. Harrison, architect of the Palestine Works Department. The Holyland token is a rejected design submitted to the committee. The designer of the proposed design had them struck by a private firm and presented them to the committee for consideration. Part of his design was incorporated into the design that was accepted by the committee."

If this theory is correct then . . . it becomes a design pattern strike and this would account for its scarcity. But then - did the designer strike his proposed design in 150 pieces to submit to the committee?

There is an error in the date on the reverse. The Arabic date below the Roman date "1927" reads in Arabic "1967" rather than "1927," for the Arabic numeral "2" is backwards . . . and becomes a "6!" It seems that if this piece had been a submitted design, the designer would have checked the engraving and found the error (unless he was not familiar with Arabic or just careless); whereas a commercially struck piece would not have received the same scrutiny.

Because of the scarcity of the token, it is possible that the piece was not well received by the tourist, who had to pay a premium for it, whereas a one Mil (why not the 2 Mils?) was available at face value (1000 Mils = 1 Palestine Pound). The mintage is unknown but a conservative estimate of the pieces known is around 150.

I realize that I have not shed any new light on this issue - maybe we will never know just what IT is. Some of the collectors have nick-named the piece, "The Hysterical Holyland Token."

The photographs and attribution shows the similarity between the 1 Mil coin and the token.

HOLYLAND TOKEN

OBVERSE

Around the rim in English, "Historical Holyland coin (1927)." In the center within an inner circle, a seven-leaved olive branch dividing the "1" on the left and Arabic on the right. Above, "One Mil" in Arabic, English and Hebrew.



REVERSE

Within an inner circle, "Palestine" in English, Arabic and Hebrew - added to the Hebrew, ("Land of Israel".) Below, the date "1927" with the Arabic version "1967," evidently an error. Around the rim in Arabic, "Historical Holyland Coin 1927." (Date is correct.)



Diam: 28.5 mm. Wt: 5.80 gm.

ONE MIL

OBVERSE

In the center, "Palestine" in Arabic, English and Hebrew - added to the Hebrew, ("Land of Israel.") On the bottom the date "1927" and its Hebrew equivalent.



REVERSE

In the center, a seven-leaved olive branch dividing the numeral "1" on the left and Arabic on the right. Around the upper rim, "One Mil" in Arabic, English and Hebrew.



Diam: 21 mm. Wt: 3.23 gm.

1927 Proof Set

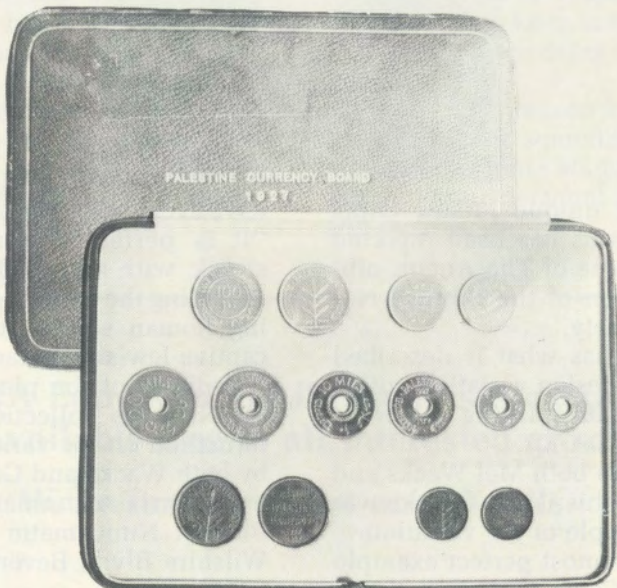
Upon the completion of the design of the Mil series, the Palestine Currency Board had the *Royal Mint* in London strike 34 double proof sets to be housed in special cases for presentation to various officials and foreign governments. A set was presented to His Majesty King George V in an elaborate case. Two specimen sets were presented to the British Museum and the Royal Mint Museum. Three EMPTY cases were sent to Jerusalem to Barclays Bank DCO. One set was discovered in the Hebrew University in the Jerusalem archives. This accounts for 4 (four) sets.

Each of the 1927 proof sets included two each of the seven denominations for a total of fourteen proof coins per case. Since this was a 1927 issue, the bronze versions of the 5, 10 and 20 Mils were not included.

Although proofs were struck of all denominations, in various years, there are no records as to the number struck except for the issue of 1927 of 66 pieces. Who received the 30 sets (other than the four accounted for above) is still to be determined.

The coins were struck in true proof condition, however, most pieces have been mishandled over the years. The set is of extreme rarity, as less than one third of the original 34 can be accounted for.

How many of the balance of the original double sets are still intact is an unknown factor. Four sets have appeared on the market in a seven-coin set rather than the 14 coin set. It is possible they were separated many years later, or . . . were issued in this manner. The *Royal Mint* is not clear on this subject.



A Guide To Grading The Coins Of Palestine

Good

Rims are defined, with beading on rim weak but defined. All legends are readable but flat. The leaves of the olive branch do not contain the rib in the center. The cluster between the branches are flat. The wreath around the central perforation is flat.

Fine

Ribs and clusters in olive branch are distinct but not sharp. The wreath around the central perforation is defined but not sharp. Beading on the rim is slightly defined.

Very Fine

Ribs and clusters in olive branch are sharply defined. The wreath around the central perforation shows all distinct leaves. Beading on rim is sharp.

Extremely Fine

Ribs and clusters in olive branch are sharp in all detail showing little wear. Wreath around central perforation is sharp without wear. All legends are bold with little wear. The rim is sharp with full beading.

Almost Uncirculated

Only the slightest trace of wear will show on the ribs and clusters of the olive branch. The wreath around the central perforation will show no wear. Legends are all sharp with no wear. The coin may have its original lustrous appearance.

Uncirculated

The coin will have no wear even on the highest points. The coin may be tarnished or "toned." Palestine coins are extremely rare in this condition; most traded as "uncirculated" or "Brilliant Uncirculated" are actually AU or EF.

Brilliant Uncirculated

An uncirculated coin which has maintained its original lustrous appearance. Bronze coins will be "mint-red" without spotting. Cupronickel coins will be highly lustrous without a dull film.

JUDAEA CAPTA VARIETY NOTED



A possibly unique Judaea Capta bronze sestertertius has been reported in a recent issue of *The Augur*, official publication of the Biblical Numismatic Society.

This piece has what is described as an unique design variation with a standing soldier splitting the word IVDAEA at IVDA EA.

According to both Mel Wacks and Ira Goldberg, this is the first known reported example of the variation.

"This is the most perfect example of a Judaea Capta sestertertius that I

have ever seen," commented Wacks. "It is perfectly centered, boldly struck, with amazingly clear details including the faces of both the standing Roman soldier and the seated captive Jewish woman!"

Pedigree of the piece is traced to the Nicholas Collection. Further information on the variety is solicited by both Wacks and Goldberg.

For further information write: The Biblical Numismatic Society, 9301 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, Calif. 90210.

Stan sez:

by Stanley Yulish



Have you ever thought about, or considered, why you collect coins? Some reasons I have heard, but not necessarily all, are:

1. A great way to pass time;
2. A good way to save money;
3. An interesting way to learn history;
4. A common bridge of the young and old and a good way to develop closeness between parent and child;
5. A means of meeting new people and making new friends and;
6. A good way to keep your sanity.

I started collecting coins almost twenty years ago, and the reasons I started collecting are still fresh in my mind. The Six Day War had just occurred and Israel was in jubilation at the victory. Jews throughout the world were inspired, even anxious, to learn of their heritage; Stan Yulish was no different. I saw an ad in a local paper by a bank selling Israel commemorative coins and I decided to go look at them. That's how I got hooked. Since that time, all of the cited reasons caused me to start and to continue to collect coins.

Incidentally, I was the reason for a *Coin World* article 10 years ago resulting from an overheard conversation with Nahum Hacoheh at the time the North American Director of the Israel Government Coin and Medals Corporation. We were discussing the coin collecting hobby. I was saying "Nahum, coin collecting for me is a wonderful escape. I have a very busy law practice and when I come home, after dinner, my wife understands that I will go to my desk; there the pace instantly slows.

My avocation has given me a different look at life. Without it I truly believe many dollars would have been spent on a psychiatrist's couch working out frustrations and hostilities that we all develop. Instead, that money has been spent on a hobby, an outlet to keep sanity." Nahum laughed; the next thing I knew it was in print.

What is your reason for collecting? Think about it sometime. You will learn a little more about your inner-self and your personal needs, wants and desires.

**The AINA Educational Library of slides and tapes
is available free to all interested groups.**

Write for a free list and details.

MAY CONVENTION

The American Israel Numismatic Association welcomed new board members, many visitors and some new projects on the horizon during its 14th annual Greater New York Numismatic Convention May 1-4 at the Omni Park Central Hotel in New York City. Julius Turoff was general chairman.

AINA President Morris Bram said he was pleased with the attendance as the public swarmed the bourse floor, especially during the first three days of the convention.

Newly re-elected board members Donna Sims of Los Angeles and Moe Weinschel of New York were on hand during the convention. Sims serves as the "INS Club Bulletin" editor and Weinschel was this year's bourse chairman.

Reduction in board

One of the most important topics discussed during the convention involved the reduction of the AINA Board of Directors now at 17.

The board decided to let the board reduce its size through attrition, reaching the goal of nine board members by 1988, when the majority of those terms will have expired.

During the AINA membership meeting, the subject of attracting new members brought a flurry of ideas and suggestions. Ed Janis, member and former president of the Winchester Israel Numismatic Society, suggested each club be sent his five-year list of meeting topics that he prepared years ago. He volunteered to put together a 10-year list of meeting topics guaranteeing there would be no repetitions from the earlier list.

Janis suggested a return to basic numismatics at club meetings in an effort to get and keep members. He said dwindling membership of some



Julius Turoff at the head of the 29-case Statue of Liberty display in the Exhibits Area. He was general chairman at the convention.



Newly elected Board members Moe Weinschel and Donna Sims were installed by AINA president Morris Bram.

SETS SHOW RECORDS

INS clubs is due to the fact that members do not prepare good programs.

Bram suggested that if a program is particularly good, the speaker should be recognized with a certificate of appreciation. He said AINA headquarters in Tamarac, Fla., would be happy to send out such laminated certificates to clubs that request them. He also suggested the role of program chairman in the clubs be a strong one to provide good programs to members.

AINA member Florence Schook, president of the American Numismatic Association, was on hand and recognized for her support of the Young Numismatist program which originated with AINA in 1974. Similar programs are today being carried out by most every major numismatic club. Also recognized was Diane Colton, editor of the INS of Michigan club newsletter.

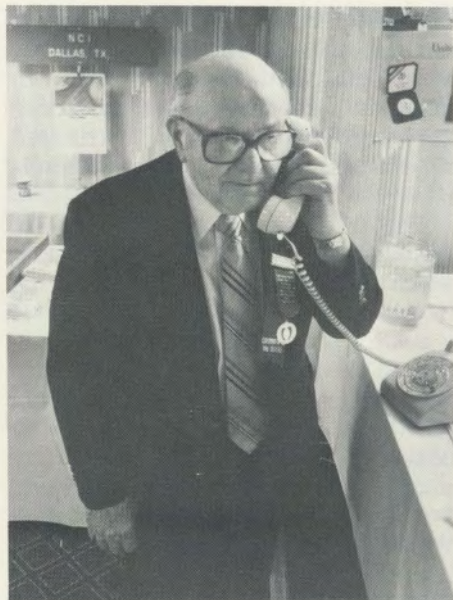
Three special programs were offered at the Educational Forum.

Ed Janis offered a slide program about "City Coins of Ancient Israel." Dr. Ira Rezak discussed false and true shekels and Morton Zerder talked about his collection of coins and paper money from the Palestine Mandate.

At the end of the forum, each speaker was presented with a certificate of appreciation by AINA President Morris Bram.

Show auctions

In other business, both Stack's and World Art Medals held auctions during the convention and attracted a variety of good bidders. Stack's was offering the Lester Bernstein collection of U.S. coins, assembled over the last 50 years.



Morris Bram solves a problem.



Morty Zerder (r.) honored by Bram.



Nat Sobel, Mel Wacks, Morty Zerder and guest.

World Art Medals conducted a one-day, 270-lot auction of a variety of medals including a collection of more than 25 medals commemorating the reign of Queen Victoria and 33 official Olympic commemoratives.

The American Israel Numismatic Association presented its literary, exhibitor and special awards during its awards breakfast.

Board member Mel Wacks presented the *Milton Fishgold Literary Award*, named in honor of a former AINA board member and supporter of the club. There was a tie for first-place with Dr. Saul Needleman and Steve Feller sharing the top award. Wacks took a third place for his contribution. The awards, judged this year by Ed Reiter, numismatic columnist for *The New York Times* and correspondent for other numismatic, and general publications, are given for the 1985 contributions to *The Shekel*.

Needleman was recognized for his article "Cut and Overmarked Coinage of the Caribbean" and Feller for "A Numismatist Looks at the Chronicle of the Lodz Ghetto" and "Konversionkasse: The Enigmatic Nazi Conversion Money of 1933-39." Wacks won for his article, "The Hasmonaens."

Donna Sims, an AINA board member and editor of the "INS Club Bulletin," was awarded the best club newsletter award for her work on the INS of Los Angeles newsletter. In addition to her membership in the club, she also provides the services of club newsletter editor. In recognition of her work and providing the members "the most interesting, most knowledgeable and most educational" club newsletter, AINA President Morris Bram presented Sims with a special award for her contributions to her local club and AINA.

Special recognition and a plaque was awarded to AINA board member Morton Zerder for his work as exhibits chairman for the convention and for his many years of service to the AINA.

Exhibit awards

On Sunday, May 4, Zerder presented the exhibit awards, including best of show to Tom Walker's for his exhibit "Silver Through the Ages." Walker's exhibit depicted silver coins beginning with a lump of silver first issued by the Persian kings of Lydia from 450 to 330 B.C. The coins were formed by striking heated lumps of silver with an anvil bearing a hand-carved obverse die and a



Certificates honor M. Zerder, M. Druck, I. Rezak and Ed Janis for contributions to convention success; Bram (center).

crude punch reverse die. The exhibit concluded with a 1971-S U.S. silver dollar depicting an eagle landing on the moon with the portrait of Dwight Eisenhower on the obverse.

Winning exhibit awards were: In Class 1 U.S. Coins, "A Type Collection of C.E. Barber" by Ed Smith received first place. In Class 2, State of Israel, "Operation Menorah" by Dr. M. Rubin won first place and "American Israel Paper Mills" by Alan Weinberg, second place. In Class 3, Holy Land, "Palestine Currency Board" by Morton Zerder won first place.

In Class 4, Judaica, "The O.P. Riots" by Dr. Jay Galst received the first place award, and "Shekels of Tyre" by Larry Gentile, Jr. won second place. For Class 5, Club Exhibit, "Judea Capta, Israel Liberata" by the Winchester Israel Numismatic Society was the winner. There was no Class 6 exhibit.

The winner in Class 7, Foreign, was "A Selection of Crowns of the Western Hemisphere" by Joaquin Medina. Second Place: "Papal Medals" by Thomas Lawless. In Class 8, Exonumia, "Atlantic City Tokens" by Archie Black won first, and "1939 Worlds Fair" by Rich Pasternach received the second place award.

Non-competitive exhibits included: "Classic Currency" by Emil Voight, "Statue of Liberty" by Julius Turoff, "Israel Paper Money" by Se-

lig Levine and "The Gold Coins of Israel" by J. Jay Van Grover.

Zerder said for the first time, AINA awarded a special noncompetitive award but added "we never had an exhibit like this." He was referring to Turoff's massive 29-case display honoring the Statue of Liberty. The plaque bears the embossed insignia of AINA and the figure of the Statue of Liberty.

YN exhibitors

The Young Numismatist exhibitors brought in a diversified example of numismatics. Zerder said additional cases had to be added because there turned out to be more exhibitors than expected.

But the increase in competition did not stop Andrew Crax from winning first place in the YN paper money class with an exhibit titled "Federal Reserve Dollar." Eddie Smith picked up the second place with a display of "Engraving and Printing of U.S. Currency."

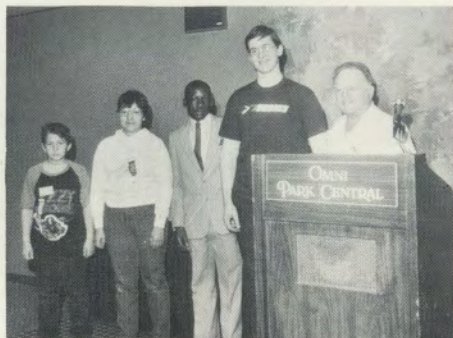
Celeste Smith took first place in the U.S. coins class with her exhibit of "Recent Proof Coins."

Other YN exhibits included "Hong Kong Coins" by Ned Canty, "Gerald Ford" by Andrew Zuckerman and "A Follis of Constantine" by Matt Zuckerman.

The total number of cases used for exhibits at the show totaled 100, according to Zerder.



Exhibit winners gather at podium.



Winners in YN competition.

History came alive during an Educational Forum. Stanley Yulish, Staff executive vice president of AINA, and George Gilbert, editor of *The Shekel* presented programs.

Yulish gave a short presentation and showed slides about the birth of money, beginning with a clay cuneiform from 2,000 B.C. which records a business transaction for beer.

George Gilbert followed Yulish's presentation with an interesting look at a multi-talented man who started out as a painter and became intrigued with photography, which led him to become a part of the Col. John Fremont expedition through the Rockies in the 1850s. He later became interested in bringing the con-

cept of steam heat into the homes of America.

Solomon Carvalho, born in 1815 in Charleston, S.C., made his mark in numismatics with a painting of "Child with Rabbits" which was printed on U.S. and Canadian paper money during the 1850s and 1860s.

**These AINA Members
and supporters
brought the event to reality.**

Master of Ceremony: Julius Turoff, *Registration:* Faye Stern, *Chairperson:* Sidney Goldfield, *Florence Turoff* and *Aida Weinschel.* *Awards:* Julie Turoff. *Publicity:* Barbara G. Kresh. *Exhibits:* Morty Zerder, Michael Druck. *Signs:* Julius Turoff. *Bourse Chairman:* Moe Weinschel. *Message Center:* Beverly Karten, Josh Karten. *Dealer Registration:* Barbara Druck. *Photography:* George Gilbert.



Top: Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Below: L. to r.: Speakers S. Yulish, G. Gilbert and Forum moderator, M. Wacks.

BEN GURION CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE ANNOUNCED



David Ben Gurion, acknowledged as "one of the four or five most important people of the twentieth century," has been honored with a very limited edition of a massive bronze medallion sculpture on the centennial of his birth issued in May 1986. Receiving this important commission from the Magnes Museum was Marika Somogyi, who previously created art medals for Raoul Wallenberg (1981), Judah Magnes (1982), Kurt Weill/Lotte Lenya (1984), and the Statue of Liberty (1986). Her work is in the permanent collections of the Royal Swedish Museum (Stockholm), The Jewish Museum (New York), and the Spertus Museum (Chicago).

The Ben Gurion Centennial Medallion Sculpture is a rounded rectangle, $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter and weighs almost two pounds. It is an impressive $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick! The ex-

tremely high relief portrait masterly depicts the "Father of Israel" with a gentle smile, surrounded by his name and dates "1886-1973." The imaginative reverse design features a hand holding a menorah-shaped plant, surrounded by an excerpt from Psalms CVII, 35: "Turning the wilderness into a water-pool and a dry land into water-springs."

The edition is cast and superbly hand finished under the personal supervision of the artist, Marika Somogyi, who hand signs a document that accompanies each piece. Because of the extensive time required by this old-world technique, no more than 250 art medals were to be made. Each bronze sculpture comes in a velvet drawstring pouch, with a display stand. The Ben Gurion Centennial Commemorative was offered for a contribution of \$100 to the non-profit Magnes Museum, 2911 Russel Street, Berkeley, CA 94705.

Morris Bram and family wish to express sincere gratitude and appreciation for the many cards, flowers, and loving support from his many friends during his recent illness.

AN UNPUBLISHED TOKEN OF THE JAFFA BUS CO. LTD.

By Dr. David Jeselsohn, Zurich

The Jan.-Feb. 1984 issue of *The Shekel* contained the article "Palestine-Israel Emergency Small Change Tokens of 1942-1954" by Sylvia Haffner Magnus. This was a somewhat revised version of the chapter "Emergency Small Change Tokens" from her book *The History of Modern Israel's Money, 1917-1970* (Tarzana, Calif., 1970, 2nd ed.). The article describes tokens which were issued, mainly by transportation companies, to overcome the shortage of change coins.

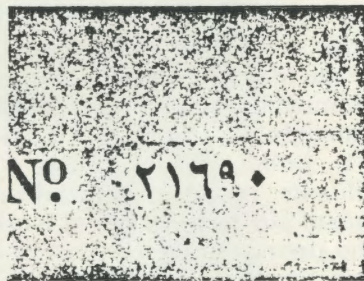
Apart from the Jewish companies there were two Arab companies which issued these tokens, the "Carmel Station Bus Company" in Haifa and the "Jaffa Bus Company" in Jaffa. According to Haffner, the latter issued a token of 2 Mils, a photo of which is reproduced in the cited article (No. 13). Haffner notes that "it has been said that a 5 Mils also exists", though no photo was available for the article.

Several years ago I discovered that the Jaffa Bus Co. also had tokens of 1 Mil. The description follows:



Thick paper/thin cardboard, light orange, print in black. Size: 41 x 33 mm. (another specimen: 43 x 32 mm); the frame, on obverse: 32 x 27 mm.

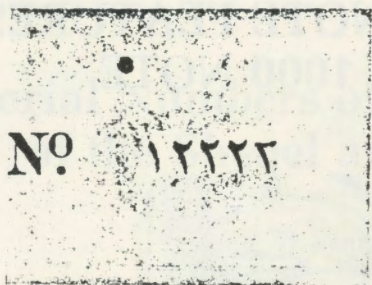
Obverse: Frame, at upper right and lower left corner the number "1", at the two other corners same number in Arabic numerals. In the centre of the frame a steering wheel. Above it, the name of the company in Arabic and English — "THE JAFFA BUS Co. Ltd". On the right, above the steering wheel, the denomination in Arabic and on the left, below the steering wheel, the same in English — "ONE MIL". Below, in Arabic and in English: "TICKET FOR ONE MIL FARE."



Reverse: "No. 21690" — the numbers are in Arabic numerals.

The token is identical with that for two Mils, except for the different denomination (see photos below for comparison). The orange colour of the 1 Mil token is somewhat darker, but this may be a coincidence.





The tokens were cut from the sheet on which they were printed, and this explains the slight difference in their sizes (the size of the 2 Mils specimen in my possession is 43 x 33 mm. The 40 x 40 size as indicated by Haffner must be a cutting variation; it is clear from the photo that the token is rectangular, with unequal sides, and not square).

Although the token carries the inscription "Ticket", Haffner's assumption as to the function as change currency seems to be correct.

In conclusion, here is a short episode related to the three tokens in my possession — two of 1 Mil and one of 2 Mils:

As a child in Israel, I often visited a friend living in Kiriath Matalon, near Petach Tiqva. One day, shortly

after the War of Independence, about 1948-9, when we made a tour through the orchards in the area, we discovered coloured papers and cardboards scattered on the ground near a small plant which manufactured paper and cardboard products. The papers and cardboards were probably brought from Jaffa, after the town had been taken by the Israeli forces, to serve as raw material. We picked up several sheets to use as drawing sheets and for games. Paper was quite scarce those days in Israel! Among those papers were also the three tokens of the Jaffa Bus Co.

Only after many years, during which I have kept these tokens, and long after all other colorful papers had been thrown away, did I discover the importance of these small pieces of paper. What a miraculous chance, that the hand of a child at play saved those pieces from being gulped down by a factory—small pieces of paper, which may be unique today!

Appendix

This table summarizes what we know today about change tokens issued by transportation companies during the British mandate period in Palestine (also see the cited article by Haffner):

The Company	Haffner's No.	Denomination Mils
Hamekasher, Jerusalem	10	1
Coop. Society Hamaavir Ltd., Tel-Aviv	9,9a	1,2
Ihud Regev Ltd., Tel-Aviv	12,12a	2,3
The Jaffa Bus Co. Ltd., Jaffa	13, -	1,2
Hever Coop. Soc. Ltd., Haifa	11, 11a	1,2
Mishmar Hamifratz Ltd, Haifa	14	2
Mt. Carmel and Ahuza Bus Service, Haifa	15	2
Coop. Bath-Galim Ltd., Haifa	1, 1a	1,2
Carmel Station Bus Co. Ltd., Haifa	3, 3a	1,2

Note: A Hebrew version of this article appeared in "Alon"—Internal Quarterly of the Israel Numismatic Society, Vol. 6, 3 (12.1978), pp. 44-45.

NEW 1 SHEKEL BANKNOTE FEATURES ART OF EARLIER 1000 NOTE



A new banknote in the denomination of 1 New Shekel has been introduced into circulation on May 8, 1986 in Israel.

This note is practically identical in all respects to the 1,000 Shekalim note of the withdrawn Shekel Series bearing the effigy of Maimonides (Rabbi Moshe Ben Maimon). Its dominant colour is green. Three zeroes were deleted from the denomination.

Another change is reflected in the fact that this note bears only one signature—that of the Governor of the Bank, instead of the usual two signatures—of the Governor and the Chairman of the Advisory Council, as in the other notes. This last change was made possible through

an amendment of the Bank of Israel Law authorizing the use of the Governor's signature only in the absence of an incumbent Advisory Council.

Both the original note and the modified version were designed by the graphic artist Mr. Zvi Narkiss.

The decision to issue a new note was taken in November 1985 in order to allow its use concurrently with coins of the same denomination. At the end of April 1986 there were 8 million 1,000 Shekalim notes and 27 million 1 New Shekel coins in circulation.

The Bank of Israel will retrieve from circulation the 1,000 Shekalim notes as has been done with the other notes of the Shekel series.

Serial Numbers of the Banknotes of Israel of the Sheqel and New Sheqel Series

by Samuel Lachman, Haifa

The Annual Report for 1985 of the Currency Department of the Bank of Israel discloses the numbering system of Israel's banknotes.

The Serial numbers are composed of ten numerals which are to be divided into three sections, thus:

No. 1118482398

Series	Serial	Control
No.	No.	No.
1118	48239	8

The summary of all numerals can always be divided by 9 (in the above case 45).

To illustrate this further, here are the numbers of ten consecutive 10 New Sheqalim Notes (the space be-

tween the numbers is of course only inserted as an illustration):

Series	Serial No.	Control No.
8962	96270	5
8962	96271	4
8962	96272	3
8962	96273	2
8962	96274	1
8962	96275	0
8962	96276	8
8962	96277	7
8962	96278	6
8962	96279	5

The Bank of Israel intends to issue a limited number of notes which will begin with the following No.:

0000 00001 8

for collectors.

COIN WORLD COLUMNIST GERALD TEBBEN CITES FIND OF HOARD IN ISRAEL

Writing in *Coin World* in late March, 1984 on the theme of coin hoards, Gerald Tebben, author of the column *Coin Lore* cited a find in Israel. Writes Tebben:

Israeli archaeologists recently came across a tiny hoard with a touching story.

A small oil lamp was found sealed in a wall of a first century Jewish home at the Dead Sea oasis of Ein Gedi. Inside the lamp they found 138 prutot in copper coins.

Dr. Ya'akov Meshorer, curator of numismatics at Israel Museum, reasoned that the

amount, slightly more than half a shekel, was symbolic and not a personal treasure.

He determined that Jews then were required to pay half a shekel (128 prutot) to the temple each year. Mishna, the Jewish law book, said an 8 percent surcharge was added to debts due in silver that were paid in copper.

"The house obviously belonged to a Jew who sealed his year's dues to the temple in his wall to protect the house from bad luck," Meshorer told government information specialists. "There is an old Jewish saying, old even at that time, 'The blessing is upon a thing which is hidden from sight.'"



TOP RECRUITERS MEMBERSHIP REPORT

MAY 1, 1986 to APRIL 15, 1987

AINA ELECTED OFFICERS

J.J. VAN GROVER	1
SYLVIA H. MAGNUS	3

WORKING MEMBERS

MICHAEL DRUCK	5
JUDAH KARTEN	1
FAYE STERN	1

Winners of Membership Builder's Contest May 1, 1985 to April 15, 1986:

First Prize: Moe Weinschel - AINA Tour Medal - 1980 (silver mintage) - 125

Second Prize Winners (tied): J.J. Van Grover/David Paszamant - Jerusalem Numismatic Meeting 1979 - bronze.

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Second Prize: Jerusalem Numismatic Meeting Medal 1979 Uniface Bronze (mintage 500)

Third Prize: Masada Silver medal 27mm (3,000 mintage)



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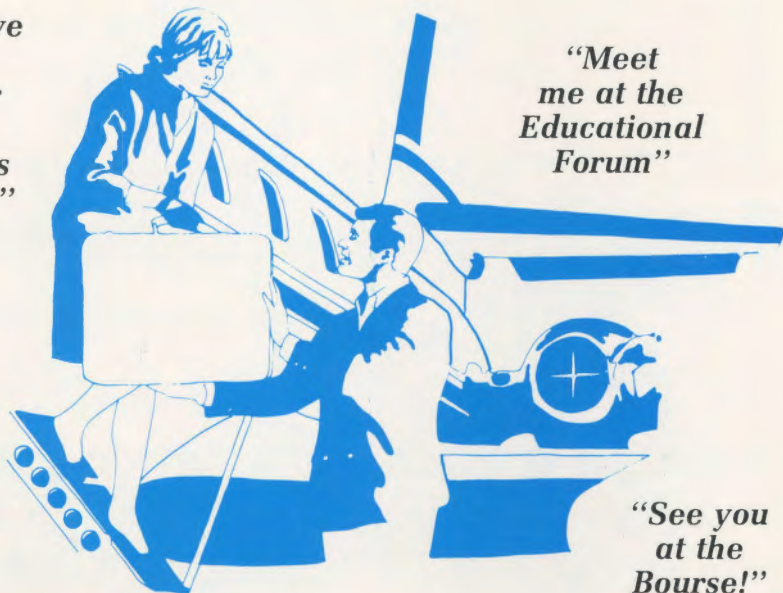
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